

## LBY – Little Bluestem Herbaceous Vegetation / Yucca Dwarf-shrubland (Map Unit 31)



Photo credit: Jim Von Loh

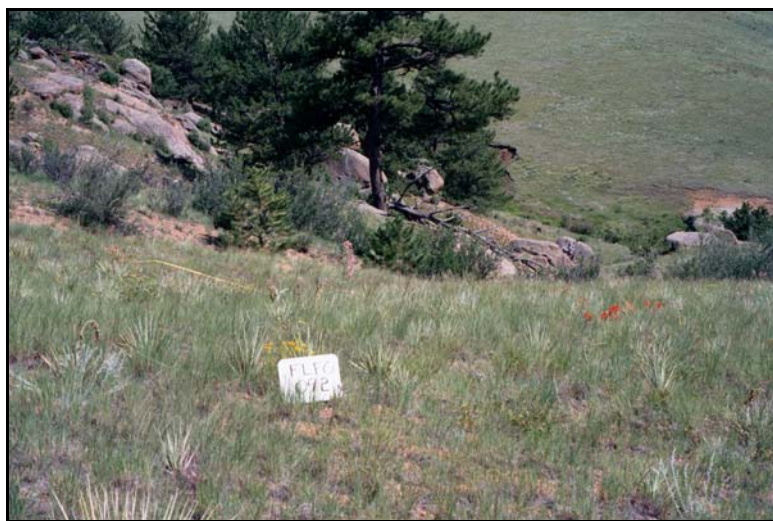


Photo credit: Jim Von Loh

The Little Bluestem Herbaceous Vegetation / Yucca Dwarf-shrubland (LBY, Map Unit 31) represents a combination of the *Schizachyrium scoparium* (Little Bluestem) Herbaceous Vegetation Park Special and the *Yucca glauca* / *Muhlenbergia montana* (Yucca / Mountain Muhly) Dwarf-shrubland Park Special.

*Schizachyrium scoparium* (Little Bluestem) Herbaceous Vegetation Park Special – This grassland is found in small stands and as patches (<0.5 ha.) It occurs where soils are thin and consist mostly of coarse gravel deposits lying over Pikes Peak Granite bedrock on toe- and midslopes of large hills. Slopes are steep, south- and west-facing, and drain rapidly.

*Yucca glauca* / *Muhlenbergia montana* (Yucca / Mountain Muhly) Dwarf-shrubland Park Special - This shrubland occupies south-facing, moderately steep, rapidly drained slopes on the larger hills and ridges at elevations of 8400-8650 feet. It is found on gravelly substrate resulting from the weathering of Pikes Peak granite bedrock.

## LBY – Little Bluestem Herbaceous Vegetation / Yucca Dwarf-shrubland (Map Unit 31) Continued

### Photo Signatures

These two associations are difficult to distinguish from one another, due to similar photo signatures and environmental conditions. In the natural color aerial photography, LBY appears as very light green to light tan with a smooth texture. The shrubs and grass are usually less than 0.5 m in height. Foliar cover ranges from 40-55% for the *Schizachyrium scoparium* patches, and 15-40% for the *Yucca glauca* / *Muhlenbergia montana* patches. Individual *Pinus ponderosa* trees are often interspersed in these stands. Photo LBY-1 was taken in August 1995 and LBY-2 was taken in September 1996.

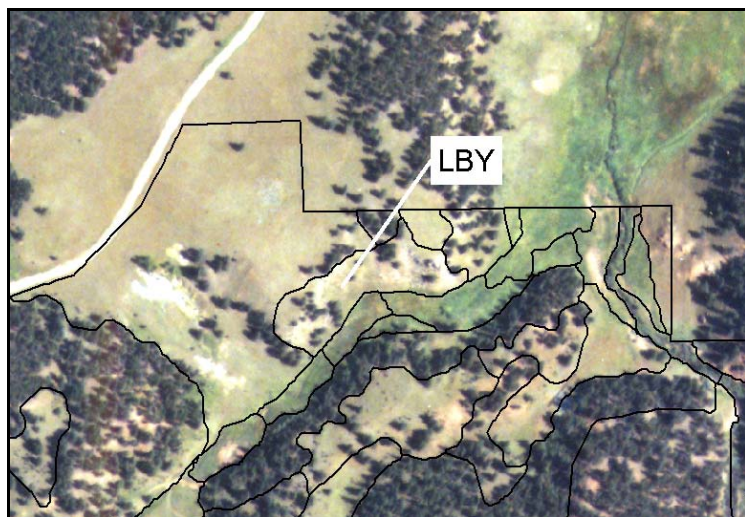
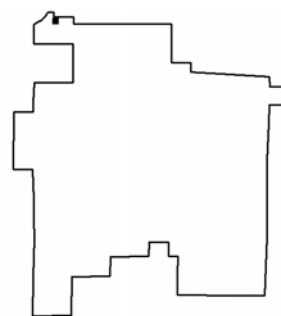


Photo LBY-1



Location of **LBY-1** within  
National Monument

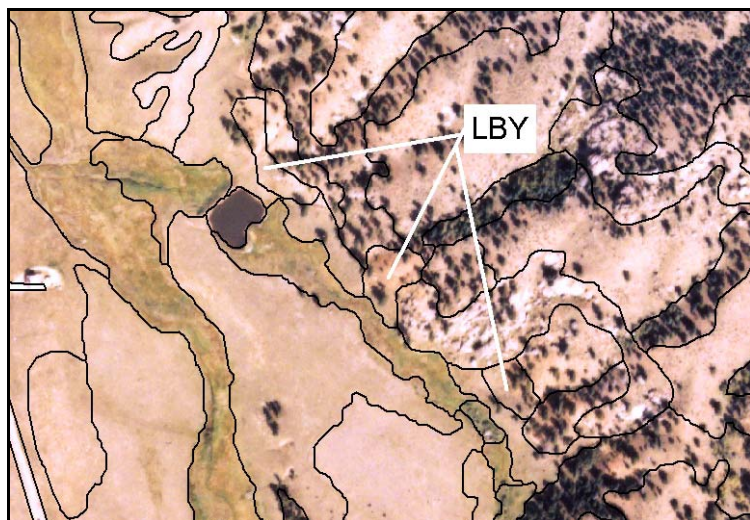
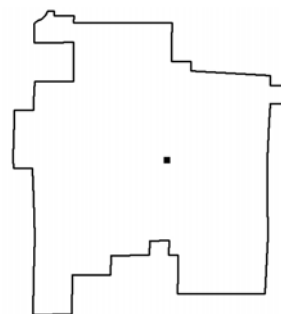


Photo LBY-2



Location of **LBY-2** within  
National Monument

## **LBY – Little Bluestem Herbaceous Vegetation / Yucca Dwarf-shrubland (Map Unit 31) Continued**

### **Area Report for LBY Map Unit**

Number of Polygons: 20

Number of Hectares: 7.5

Number of Acres: 18.5

Average Size: 0.4 hectares, 0.9 acres

### **Accuracy Assessment Results for LBY Map Unit**

The Little Bluestem Herbaceous Vegetation / Yucca Dwarf-shrubland Map Unit was assessed at 78% for producers' accuracy (confidence interval 59-97%) and at 52% users' accuracy (confidence interval 34-70%).